THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) and (b) NCERT has informed that it has organized a series of meetings of various senior officials to discuss the requirements of the Tsunami affected areas. Three teams have visited different Tsunami hit areas *viz.* Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Pondicherry and Tamil Nadu between February 8—16, 2005 to assess the educational requirements of these areas which could be addressed by NCERT without duplicating efforts already put in by State Governments, Union Territories, International Agencies and NGOs. As a follow up NCERT has provided NCERT textbooks to children from A&N Islands free of cost. As on date, 61,152 copies of 120 titles for different classes estimated at Rs. 18,35,478/- have been provided. In addition, examination related inputs for children appearing for Board Examination have been taken up. NCERT has also initiated consultations with various State level organizations and NGOs.

Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and Mid-Day Meal Scheme

†4051. PROF. R.B.S. VERMA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to implement 'Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan' and 'Mid-Day Meal Scheme' jointly;

(b) if so, by when the said scheme is likely to be implemented; and

(c) the details of the amount sanctioned by Government for Mid-Day Meal Scheme during the current year, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) and (b) The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and Mid-Day Meal Schemes are being implemented in a convergent manner with a common objective for universalization of elementary education;

(c) Details of amount sanctioned State-wise under the 'Mid-Day Meal Scheme' during the year 2004-05 are enclosed as a Statement.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement

State-wise details of amount sanctioned under Mid-Day Meal Scheme

(Rs. in crores)

Sl.No.	States	Additional Central Assistance Released by Ministry of Finance during 2004-05
1	2	3
1	Andhra Pradesh	76.01
2	Arunachal Pradesh	2.77
3.	Assam	23.11
4.	Bihar	70.82
5.	Chhattisgarh	39.74
6	Goa	0.60
7	Gujarat	48.04
8	Haryana	21.74
9	Himachal Pradesh	8.45
10	Jammu & Kashmir	2.47
11	Jharkhand	16.20
12	Karnataka	65.90
13	Kerala	24.53
14	Madhya Pradesh	132.59
15	Maharashtra	139.95
16	Manipur	2.19
17	Meghalaya	5.44
18	Mizoram	0.64
19	Nagaland	2.46
20	Orissa	73.56
21	Punjab	7.46
22	Rajasthan	131.51
23	Sikkim	0.65
24	Tamil Nadu	58.19

1	2	3
25	Tripura	7.02
26	Uttaranchal	12.34
27	Uttar Pradesh	170.67
28	West Bengal	69.93
	TOTAL:	1215.00

Empowerment of women through education

4052. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering for empowering women through education;

(b) if so, in what manner and by when and the number of women expected to be benefit;

(c) whether Government are aware that society is expected to provide equal opportunities for women in development sector and income generation in the family; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) and (b) The Mahila Samakhya Scheme is being implemented by the Government of India for the education and empowerment of women in rural areas, particularly of women from socially and economically marginalized groups. The scheme is operational in 9 States *viz.* Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Uttaranchal and Uttar Pradesh. 3.87 lakh women in these States are being benefited under this scheme.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The National Policy for the Empowerment of Women approved/ adopted by the Government in 2001 aims to bring about the advancement, development and empowerment of women and enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by women on equal basis with men in all spheres—political, economic, social cultural and civil.